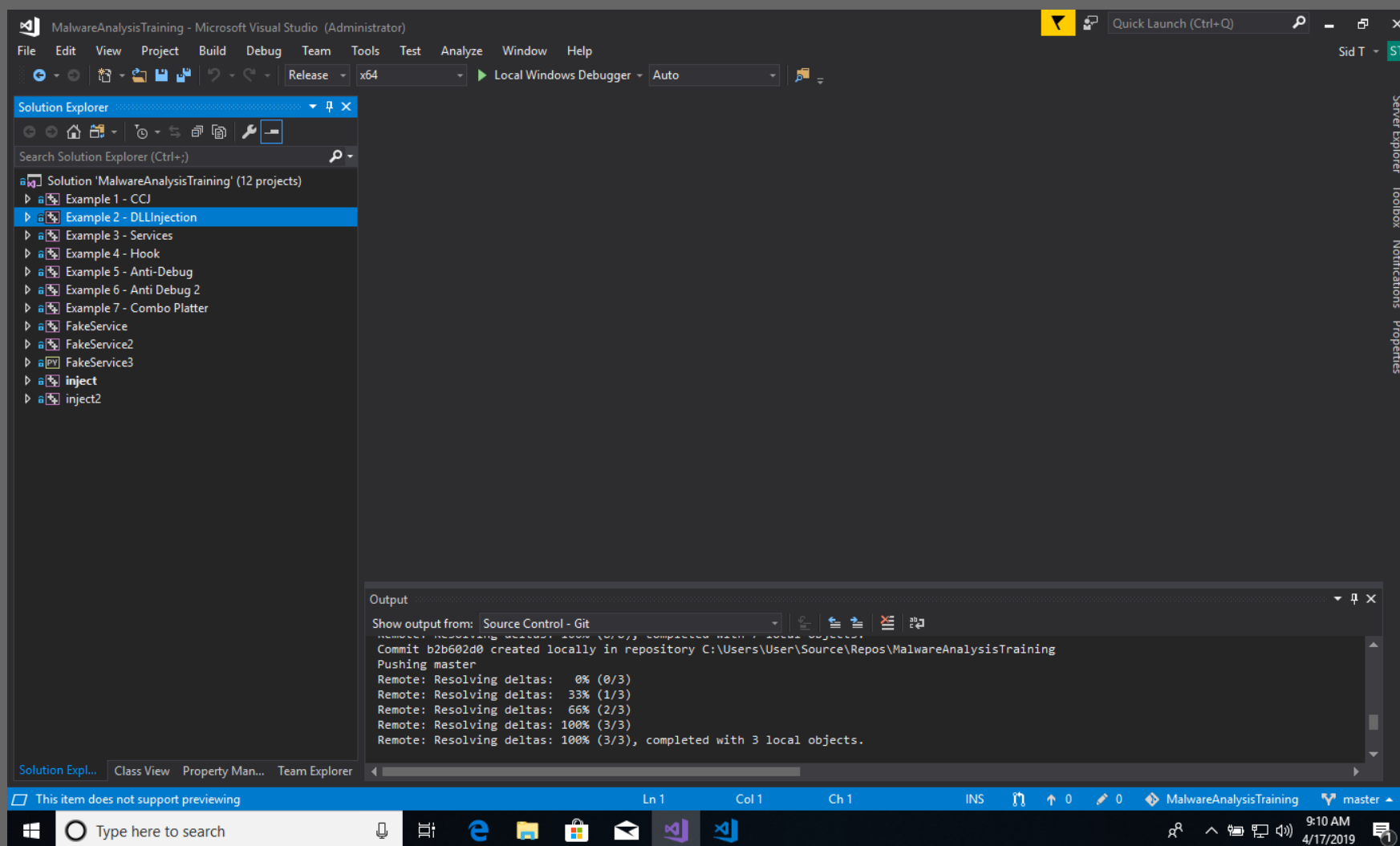


Part 1 – Example 2

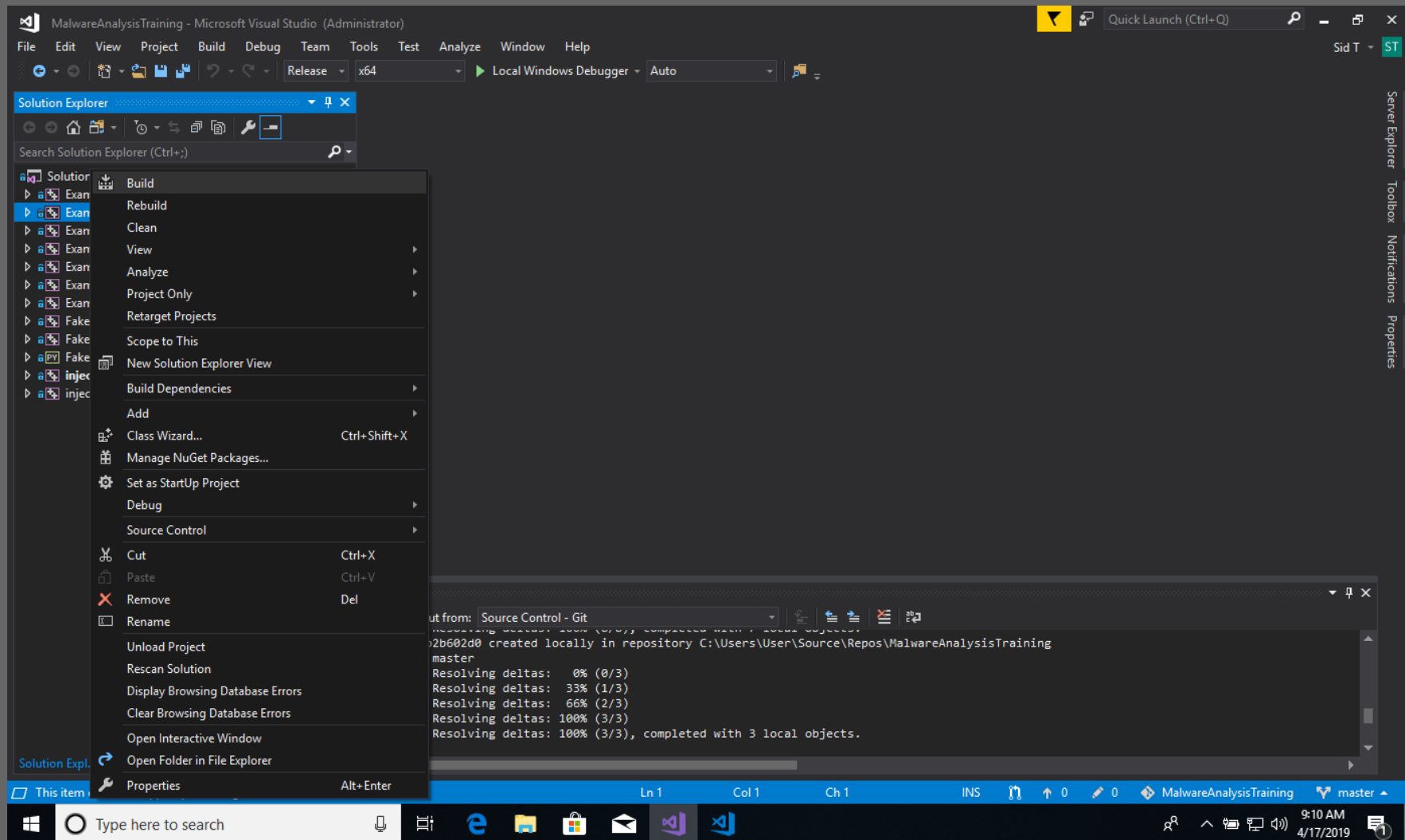
Opening Comments

- This example will be more hands off and to test whether or not you remember the techniques in Example 1.
- Your goal, in this example, is to create your own simple timeline of the malware's behavior

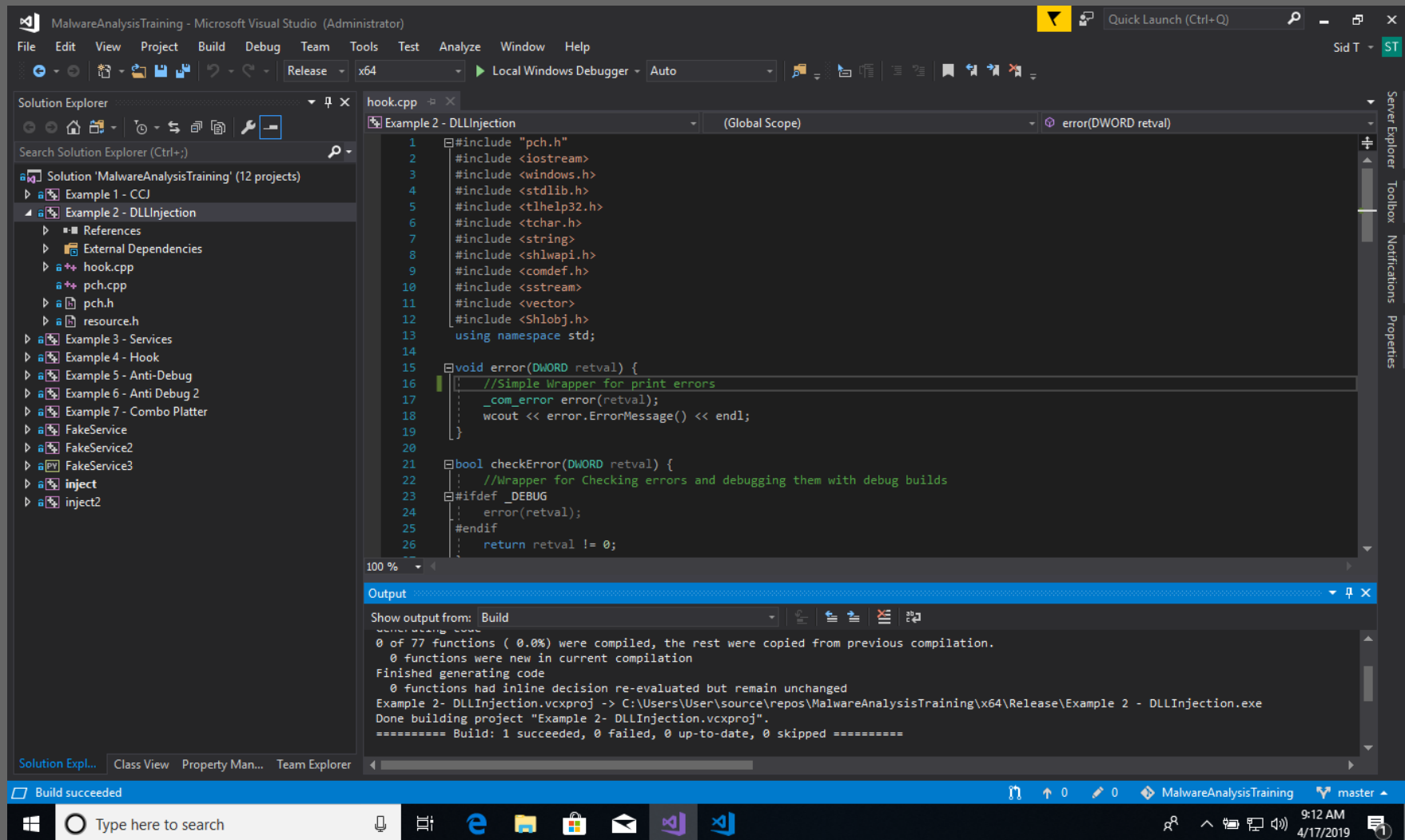
Setting up the Example



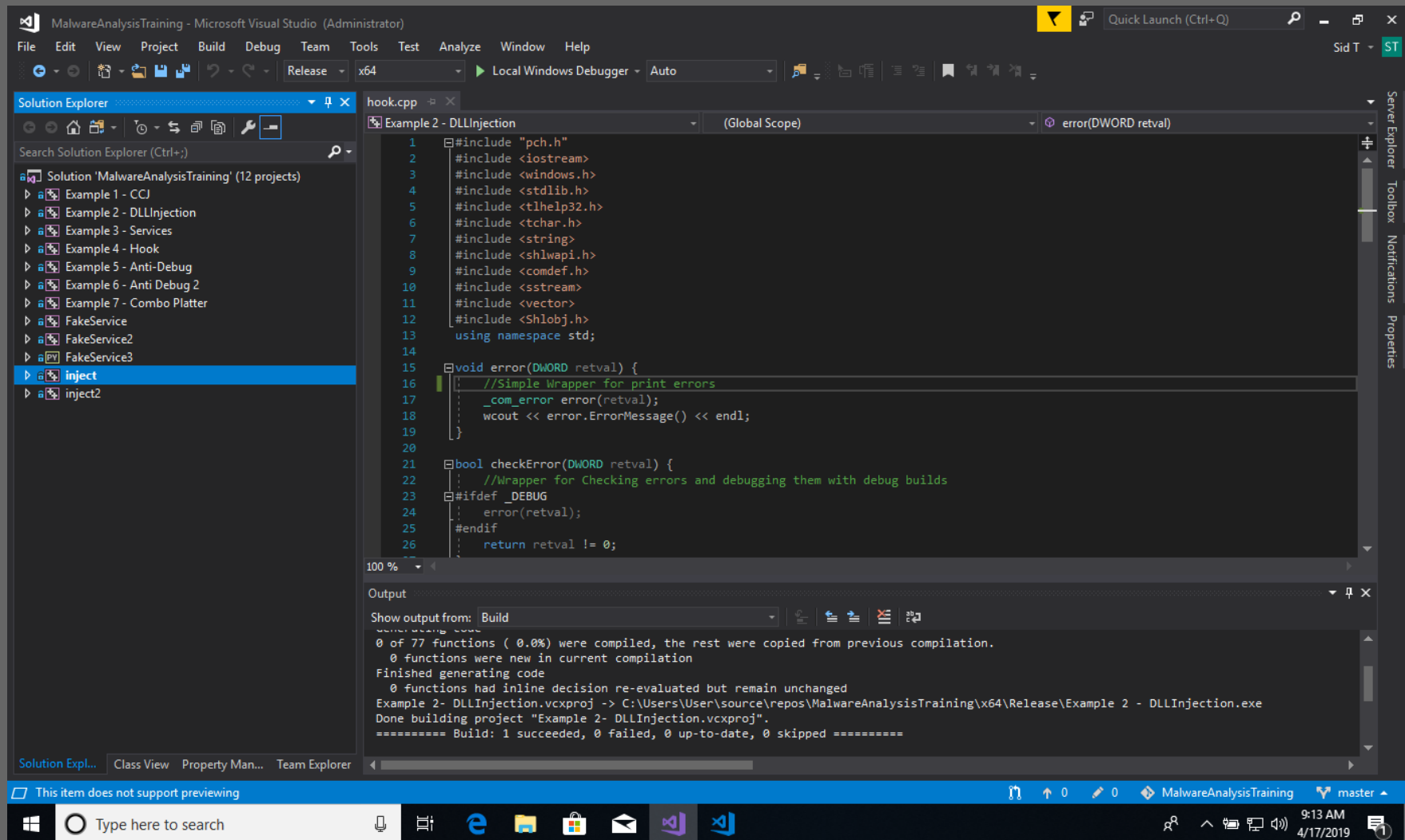
First things first. Build the Example 2 as a “Release” build. Don't forget to set “Any CPU” to x64/x86.



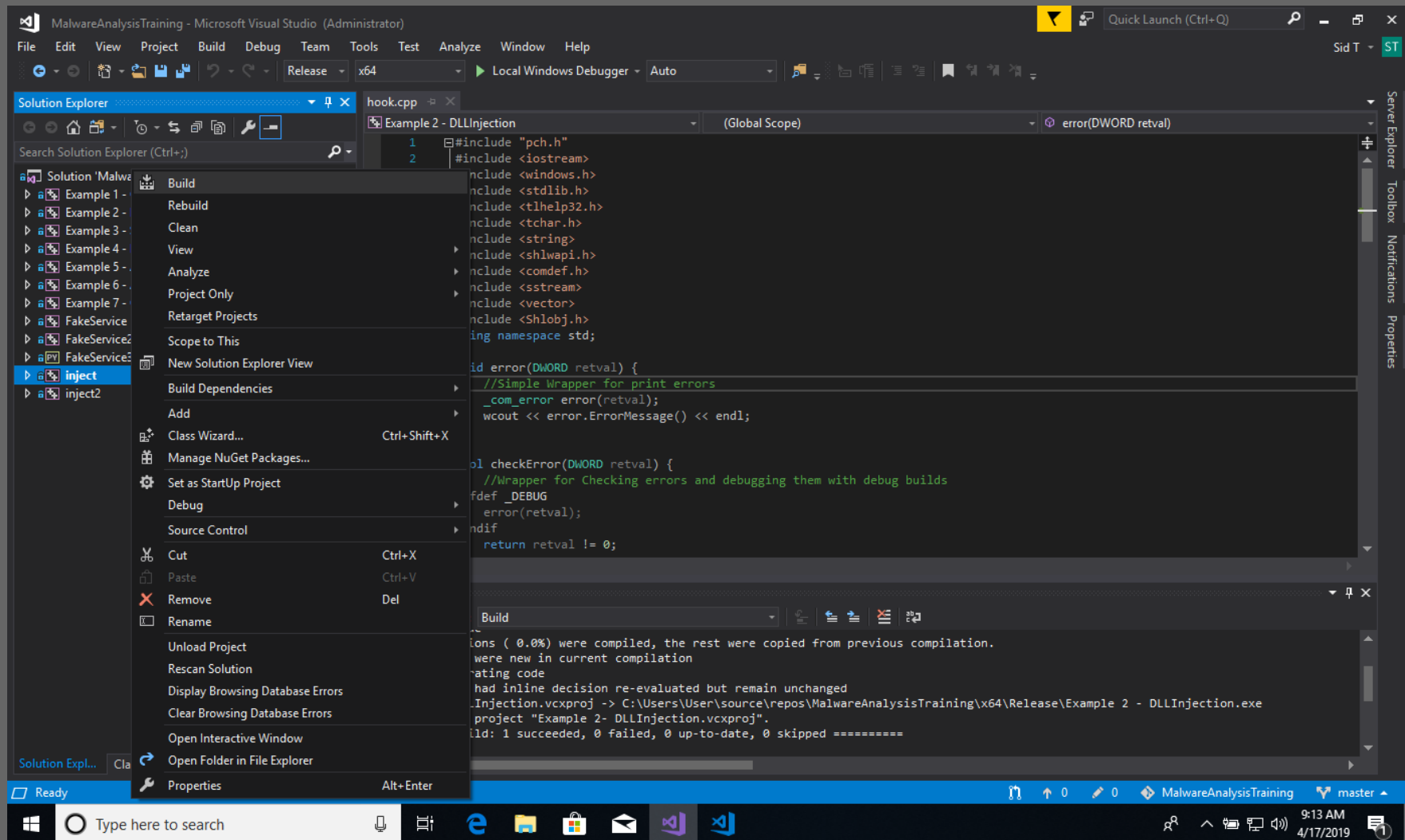
Example showing success of the build.



We're also going to go ahead and build the “inject” project as well. Hover over “inject” and click the “Build” option.



Build and success of inject.



First steps

- Analyze the “Strings” first and figure out ones that are interesting.
- Come back to the slides once you've found a few and you can double check your work.
- If you get stuck look back at example 1's slides for hints.

Strings

- So your back with some strings
- In the next slide I'll highlight from my IDA's point of view which ones I found interesting.

Strings

IDA - Example 2 - DLLInjection.exe C:\Users\User\source\repos\MalwareAnalysisTraining\64\Release\Example 2 - DLLInjection.exe

File Edit Jump Search View Debugger Options Windows Help

Library function Regular function Instruction Data Unexplored External symbol

Functions window

Function name

- sub_140001000
- sub_140001010
- sub_1400016F0
- sub_140001750
- sub_1400018B0
- sub_140001A70
- sub_140001AB0
- sub_140001C40
- sub_140001C90
- sub_140001CB0
- security_check_cookie**
- !_free
- sub_140001D1C
- sub_140001D58
- sub_140001D84
- sub_140001E3C
- sub_140001E4C
- sub_140001E68
- start
- __raise_securityfailure
- __report_gsfailure

Line 16 of 107

Graph overview

Strings window

Address	Length	Type	String
.rdata:0000...	00000012	C	Unknown exception
.rdata:0000...	0000000F	C	bad allocation
.rdata:0000...	00000015	C	bad array new length
.rdata:0000...	0000000C	C	Opened key!
.rdata:0000...	0000002D	C	Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion
.rdata:0000...	0000000C	C	\\inject.dll
.rdata:0000...	0000000A	C	\\temp.dll
.rdata:0000...	00000018	C	\\AppData\\Local\\temp.dll
.rdata:0000...	0000000D	C	AppInit_DLLs
.rdata:0000...	00000008	C	Windows
.rdata:0000...	0000002D	C	SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion
.rdata:0000...	00000011	C	LoadAppInit_DLLs
.rdata:0000...	00000010	C	string too long
.rdata:0000...	00000005	C	GCTL
.rdata:0000...	00000009	C	.text\$m
.rdata:0000...	0000000C	C	.text\$m\$00
.rdata:0000...	00000008	C	.text\$x
.rdata:0000...	00000009	C	.idata\$5
.rdata:0000...	00000007	C	.00cfg
.rdata:0000...	00000009	C	.CRT\$XCA
.rdata:0000...	0000000A	C	.CRT\$XCAA
.rdata:0000...	00000009	C	.CRT\$XCZ
.rdata:0000...	00000009	C	.CRT\$XIA
.rdata:0000...	0000000A	C	.CRT\$XIAA
.rdata:0000...	0000000A	C	.CRT\$XIAC
.rdata:0000...	00000009	C	.CRT\$XIZ
.rdata:0000...	00000009	C	.CRT\$XPA
.rdata:0000...	00000009	C	.CRT\$XPZ
.rdata:0000...	00000009	C	.CRT\$XTA
.rdata:0000...	00000009	C	.CRT\$XTZ

Line 12 of 63

Output window

The initial autoanalysis has been finished.

IDC

AU: idle Down Disk: 75GB

Type here to search

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Strings

- Now let's discuss the ones picked out and why their interesting.
- “Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion” looks like a registry key to me and is a prime string to do analysis on.
- “temp.dll”, “inject.dll” are filenames that may be used during runtime.
- ApplInit_DLLs and LoadInit_DLLs are discussed on the next slide.

ApplInit_DLLs & LoadInit_DLLs

- This two are super important. Anytime you run into a string that you don't know you should use a search engine and see if a result comes up.
- If they have a Microsoft doc web page associated with them their pretty important.
- Let's see what the description is for these strings.

AppInit_DLLs & LoadInit_DLLs

- HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Windows
- All the DLLs that are specified in this value are loaded by each Microsoft Windows-based application that is running in the current log on session.

What does it mean?

- This means that every time user32.dll is loaded into a file at runtime the file in that registry location will be loaded along with it.
- Sounds like a pretty nice spot for malware to put itself into it.

Imports

- Time to do your analysis on imports and see if there are interesting functions.
- Do some analysis and come back to the slides to double check what you've found.

Import findings.

- The ones found interesting are:
 - RegSetKeyValueA
 - RegOpenKeyExA
 - GetCurrentDirectoryA
 - MoveFileExA
 - CopyFile
- Now let's discuss why

Import Findings

- For the author of the malware to modify `Applnit_DLLs` they must open the registry and then edit the registry.
- `RegSetKeyValueA` and `RegOpenKeyExA` allow this to happen. You should probably put some breakpoints on these functions to test this theory.

Import Findings

- GetCurrentDirectoryA
- MoveFileExA
- CopyFile
- These are indicative of file name change, file movement, and file lookup.
- The author of the malware needs to put something in place for ApplInit_DLLs to work, aka a .dll file. Breakpointing here should allow us to see the file being copied and moved.

Comments on Static Analysis

- By now we can create a general hypothesis of what's happening in this file just from strings and imports.
 - 1)The binary wishes to edit AppInit_DLLS and LoadInit_DLLs.
 - 2)The binary wishes to move files around, possibly a .dll
 - 3)This moved file will then be loaded later in anything that uses user32.dll

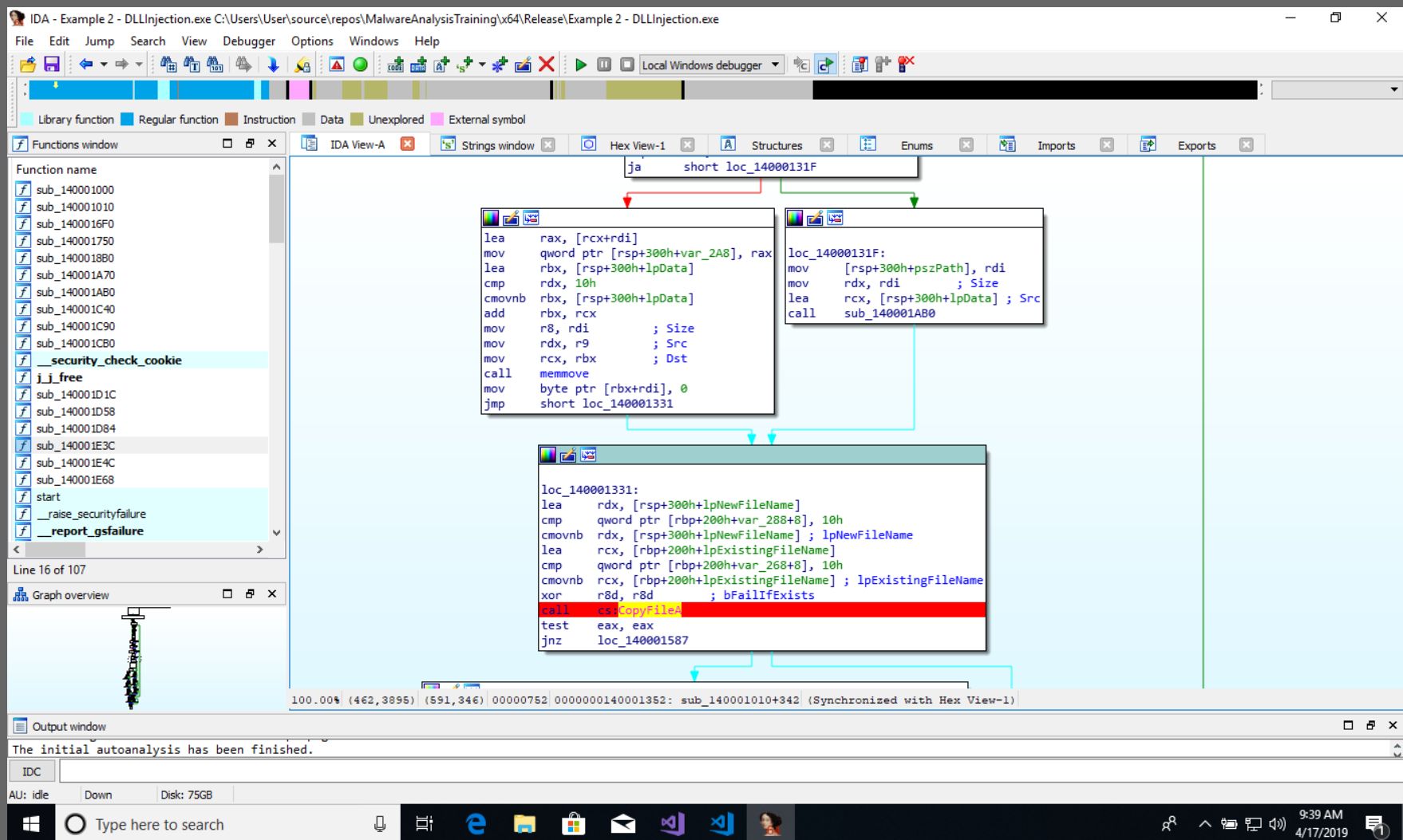
Dynamic Analysis Goal

- We have some hypothesis's to prove.
- We need to use our breakpoints and debugging skills in the dynamic analysis stage to prove these hypothesis's.
- Use the IDA debugger/Windbg to show proof that these events are happening.
- Come back to the slides once you have maybe some evidence of such things occurring

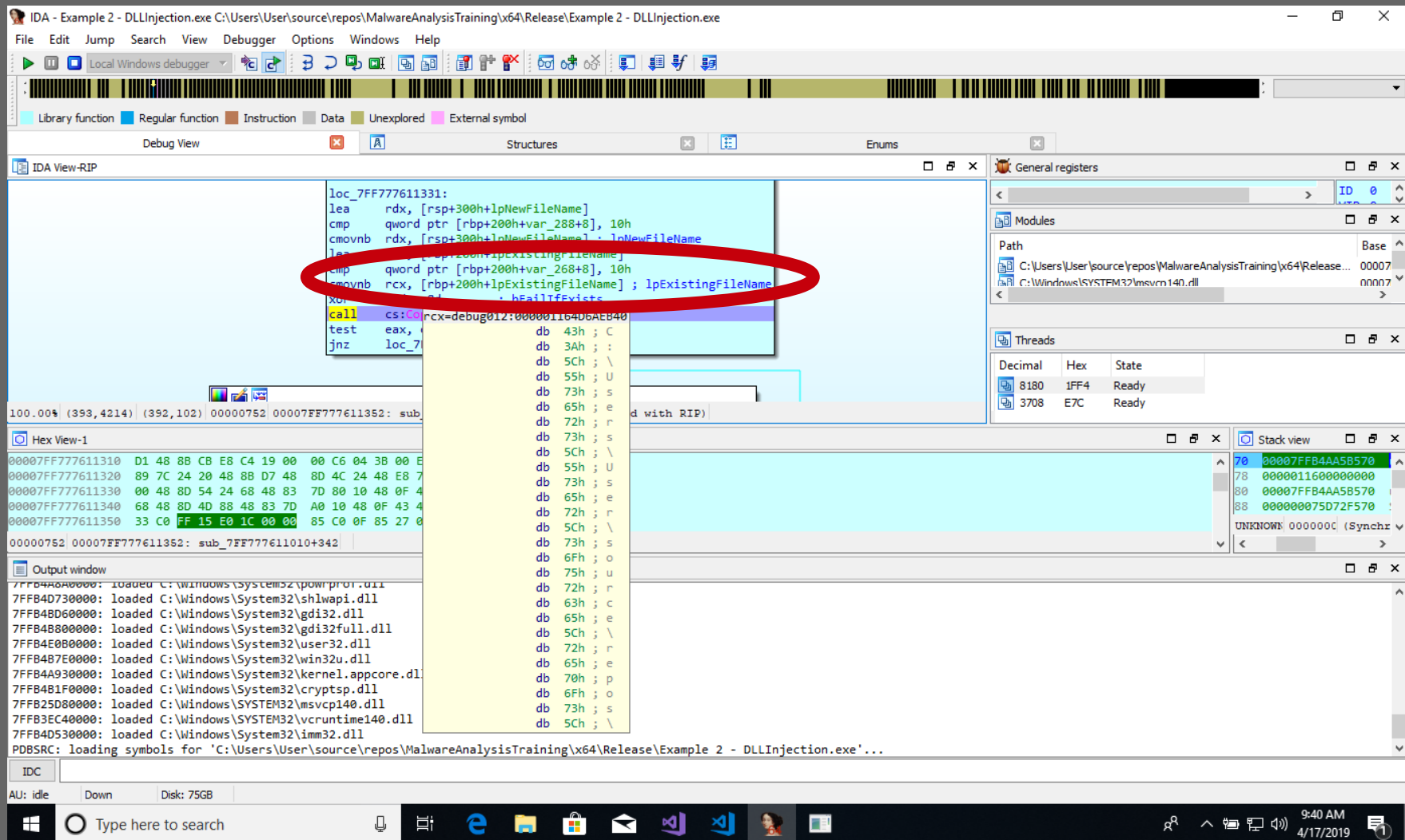
Dynamic Analysis

- Welcome back.
- What evidence did you find for our hypothesis's?
- In the next few slides I'll show you some pictures showing some evidence of the findings and even some further things to analyze.

I stuck a breakpoint on CopyFileA to watch the input into the function.



Looks like we've got a filename going through CopyFileA. On the line circled in red there's an attribute called "lpExistingFileName" and above that "lpNewFileName" denoted in dark blue in ida while debugging.



You'll notice the line has the instruction “cmovnb rcx, [rbp+200h+lpExistingFilename]”. It's a long way of saying

rcx = lpExistingFilename

If you hover over rcx you can see what the string is. It's a bit long.

The screenshot shows the IDA Pro interface with the assembly view of a function. The instruction `cmovnb rcx, [rbp+200h+lpExistingFilename]` is highlighted. A tooltip is displayed over the `rcx` register, showing the address `00000752` and the value `00007FF77611352`. The tooltip also shows the memory contents of the address `00007FF77611352` in hex and ASCII. The assembly code is as follows:

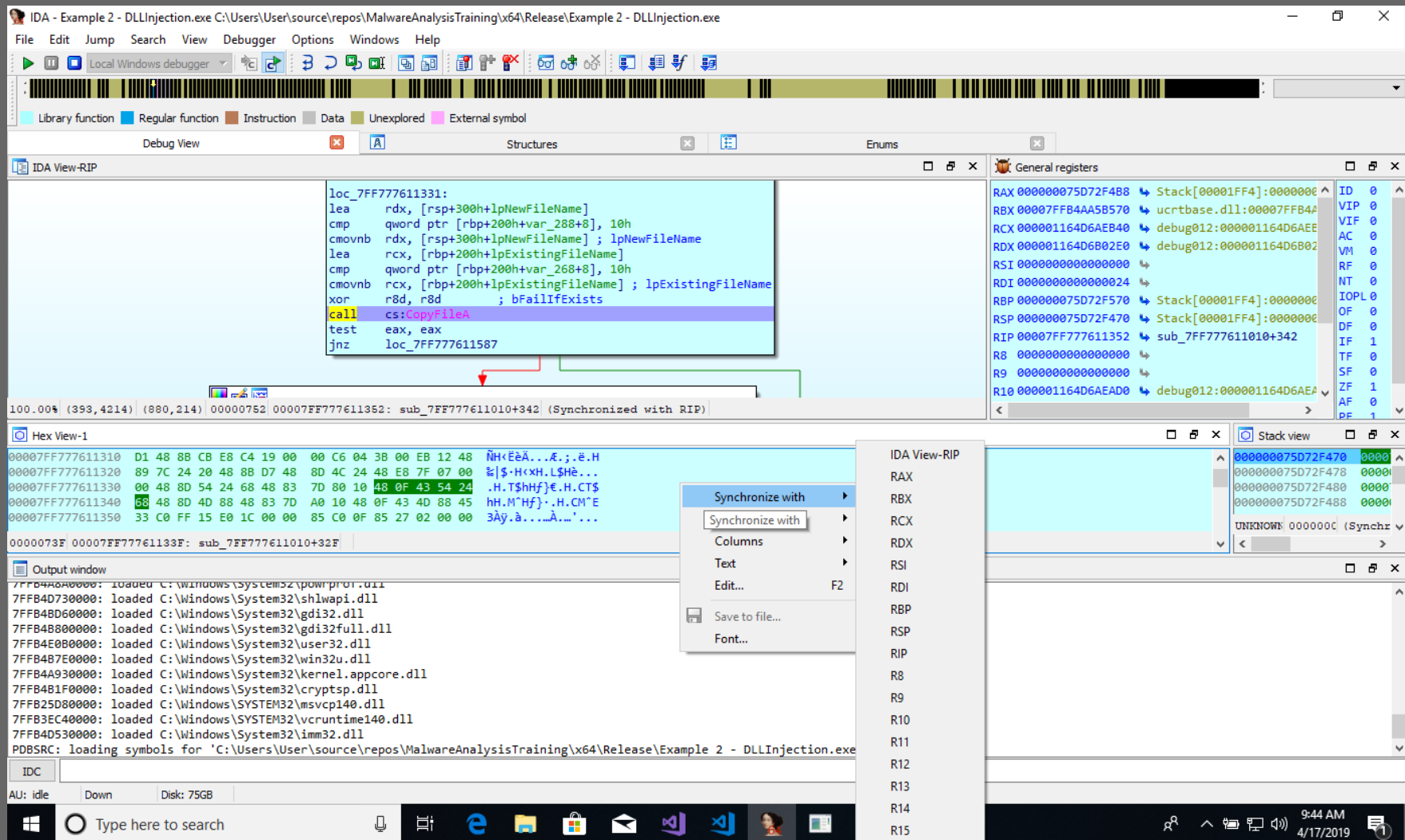
```
loc_7FF77611331:
lea     rdx, [rsp+300h+lpNewFileName]
cmp     qword ptr [rbp+200h+var_288+8], 10h
cmovnb  rdx, [rsp+300h+lpNewFileName] ; lpNewFileName
lea     rcx, [rbp+200h+lpExistingFilename]
cmp     qword ptr [rbp+200h+var_268+8], 10h
cmovnb  rcx, [rbp+200h+lpExistingFilename] ; lpExistingFilename
xor     r8d, r8d ; bFailIfExists
call    cs:[rcx=debug012:00000116406AEB40]
test    eax, eax
jnz     loc_7FF77611331
```

The hex view shows the memory contents of the address `00007FF77611352` in hex and ASCII. The output window shows the loaded DLLs for the process.

Output window:

```
7FFB4D800000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\powrprof.dll
7FFB4D730000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\shlwapi.dll
7FFB48D60000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\gdi32.dll
7FFB48800000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\gdi32full.dll
7FFB4E0B0000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\user32.dll
7FFB4B7E0000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\win32u.dll
7FFB4A930000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\kernel.appcore.dll
7FFB481F0000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\cryptsp.dll
7FFB25D80000: loaded C:\Windows\SYSTEM32\msvcrt.dll
7FFB3EC40000: loaded C:\Windows\SYSTEM32\user32.dll
7FFB4D530000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\imm32.dll
PDBSRC: loading symbols for 'C:\Users\User\source\repos\MalwareAnalysisTraining\x64\Release\Example 2 - DLLInjection.exe'...
```


What we do is in the “Hex view – 1” sub view, below the box graph view, is right click the hex view and you'll see a “Synchronize with” button. Hover over to RCX and click RCX to make the hex view align with RCX in memory.



I highlighted in gray below to show the interesting filename that pops up in memory. It looks like our inject.dll.

Now see the line with lpNewFileName? Synchronize with RDX to see what his value is.

The screenshot displays the IDA Pro interface for the file `C:\Users\User\source\repos\MalwareAnalysisTraining\x64\Release\Example 2 - DLLInjection.exe`. The assembly view shows the following code at `loc_7FF777611331`:

```
lea rdx, [rsp+300h+lpNewFileName]
cmp qword ptr [rbp+200h+var_288+8], 10h
cmovnb rdx, [rsp+300h+lpNewFileName] ; lpNewFileName
lea rcx, [rbp+200h+lpExistingFileName]
cmp qword ptr [rbp+200h+var_268+8], 10h
cmovnb rcx, [rbp+200h+lpExistingFileName] ; lpExistingFileName
xor r8d, r8d ; bFailIfExists
call cs:CopyFileA
test eax, eax
jnz loc_7FF777611587
```

The `call cs:CopyFileA` instruction is highlighted in gray. A red arrow points from this instruction to the hex view below. The hex view shows the memory contents at address `000001164D6AEB80`, which is synchronized with the `RCX` register. The hex data is:

```
43 3A 5C 55 73 65 72 73 5C 55 73 65 72 5C 73 6F
75 72 63 65 5C 72 65 70 6F 73 5C 4D 61 6C 77 61
72 65 41 6E 61 6C 79 73 69 73 54 72 61 69 6E 69
6E 67 5C 78 36 34 5C 52 65 6C 65 61 73 65 5C 69
6E 6A 65 63 74 2E 64 6C 6C 00 AD BA 0D F0 AD BA
```

The output window shows the loaded DLLs for the process:

```
7FFB4D800000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\powrprof.dll
7FFB4D730000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\shlwapi.dll
7FFB48D60000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\gdi32.dll
7FFB48800000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\gdi32full.dll
7FFB4E0B0000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\user32.dll
7FFB4B7E0000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\win32u.dll
7FFB4A930000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\kernel.appcore.dll
7FFB481F0000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\cryptsp.dll
7FFB25D80000: loaded C:\Windows\SYSTEM32\msvcrt.dll
7FFB3EC40000: loaded C:\Windows\SYSTEM32\vruntime140.dll
7FFB4D530000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\imm32.dll
PDBSRC: loading symbols for 'C:\Users\User\source\repos\MalwareAnalysisTraining\x64\Release\Example 2 - DLLInjection.exe'...
```

Looks like it's named "temp.dll". So what we know now is that the binary is basically copying the inject.dll and renaming it to temp.dll.

The screenshot displays the IDA Pro interface for the file `C:\Users\User\source\repos\MalwareAnalysisTraining\x64\Release\Example 2 - DLLInjection.exe`. The main window shows assembly code at address `loc_7FF777611331`:

```
loc_7FF777611331:
lea rdx, [rsp+300h+lpNewFileName]
cmp qword ptr [rbp+200h+var_288+8], 10h
cmovnb rdx, [rsp+300h+lpNewFileName] ; lpNewFileName
lea rcx, [rbp+200h+lpExistingFileName]
cmp qword ptr [rbp+200h+var_268+8], 10h
cmovnb rcx, [rbp+200h+lpExistingFileName] ; lpExistingFileName
xor r8d, r8d ; bFailIfExists
call cs:CopyFileA
test eax, eax
jnz loc_7FF777611587
```

The **General registers** window on the right shows the state of various registers, including `RAX`, `RBX`, `RCX`, `RDY`, `RSI`, `RDI`, `RBP`, `RSP`, `RIP`, `R8`, `R9`, and `R10`.

The **Hex View-1** window at the bottom shows the raw bytes of the code, with the instruction `call cs:CopyFileA` highlighted. The **Output window** at the bottom displays the loaded DLLs and the PDBSRC information.

The **Output window** content:

```
7FFB4D800000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\powrprof.dll
7FFB4D730000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\shlwapi.dll
7FFB4D600000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\gdi32.dll
7FFB4D800000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\gdi32full.dll
7FFB4E000000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\user32.dll
7FFB4B7E0000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\win32u.dll
7FFB4A930000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\kernel.appcore.dll
7FFB481F0000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\cryptsp.dll
7FFB25D80000: loaded C:\Windows\SYSTEM32\msvcrt.dll
7FFB3EC40000: loaded C:\Windows\SYSTEM32\user32.dll
7FFB4D530000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\imm32.dll
PDBSRC: loading symbols for 'C:\Users\User\source\repos\MalwareAnalysisTraining\x64\Release\Example 2 - DLLInjection.exe'...
```

Next piece of evidence

- What about MoveFileExA?
- Let's put a breakpoint there and see what gets pushed through

Breakpoint and continuing to MoveFileExA and synchronizing with RDX shows us where the binary wishes to put the temp.dll. It looks like the file is being placed in AppData/Local.

The screenshot displays the IDA Pro interface for the file `C:\Users\User\source\repos\MalwareAnalysisTraining\64\Release\Example 2 - DLLInjection.exe`. The main assembly window shows the following code:

```
call cs:CopyFileA
test eax, eax
jnz loc_7FF777611587

lea rdx, [rbp+200h+Src]
cmp [rbp+200h+Size+8], 10h
cmovnb rdx, [rbp+200h+Src]; lpNewFileName
lea rcx, [rsp+300h+lpNewFileName]
cmp qword ptr [rbp+200h+var_288+8], 10h
cmovnb rcx, [rsp+300h+lpNewFileName]; lpExistingFileName
lea r8d, [rax+2]; dwFlags
call cs:MoveFileExA
lea rdx, [rsp+300h+lpData]
cmp [rsp+300h+var_2A0], 10h
cmovnb rdx, [rsp+300h+lpData]
mov eax, [rsp+300h+var_2A8]
mov [rsp+300h+cbData], eax; cbData
mov [rsp+300h+pszPath], rdx; lpData
```

The Hex View-1 window shows the following hex data:

```
0000020E3C07A500 4F 53 3D 57 69 6E 64 6F 77 73 5F 4E 54 00 AB AB OS=Windows_NT.««
0000020E3C07A510 AB AB AB AB AB AB AB AB AB AB AB AB AB AB AB ..««««««««««««««
0000020E3C07A520 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
0000020E3C07A530 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 59 48 74 D3 DA 42 00 3F .....Yht0ÜB.?
0000020E3C07A540 43 3A 5C 55 73 65 72 73 5C 55 73 65 72 5C 41 70 C:\Users\User\AppData\Local\temp
0000020E3C07A550 70 44 61 74 61 5C 4C 6F 63 61 6C 5C 74 65 6D 70 .dll.0*.0*.0*
0000020E3C07A560 2E 64 6C 6C 00 F0 AD BA 0D F0 AD BA 0D F0 AD BA
0000020E3C07A570 AB AB AB AB AB AB AB AB AB AB AB AB AB AB AB
```

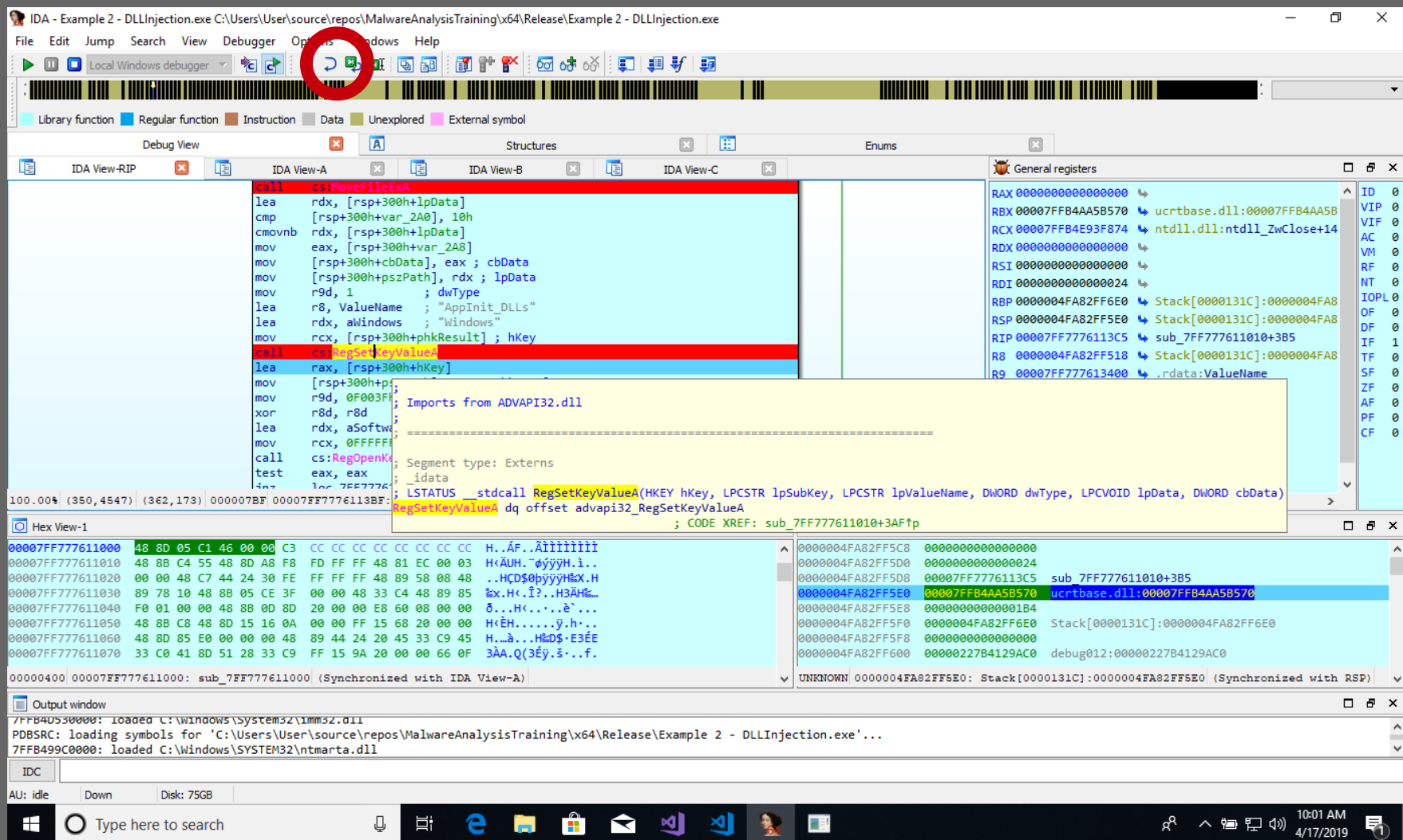
The Stack view window shows the following stack data:

```
00000036BD8FF4B0 0000
00000036BD8FF4B8 0000
00000036BD8FF4C0 0000
00000036BD8FF4C8 0000
00000036BD8FF4D0 0000
00000036BD8FF4D8 0000
00000036BD8FF4E0 FFFF
UNKNOWN 00000003 (Synchr
```

The Output window shows the following output:

```
7FFB4D530000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\imm32.dll
PDBSRC: loading symbols for 'C:\Users\User\source\repos\MalwareAnalysisTraining\64\Release\Example 2 - DLLInjection.exe'...
7FFB499C0000: loaded C:\Windows\SYSTEM32\ntmarta.dll
```

Now let's breakpoint on RegSetValueA and step one line over it. I circled in red below the jump over button. Let's go into "regedit" and check the registry to see if the binary did modify AppInit_DLLs



That looks like a yes to me. The binary replaced the AppInit_DLLs with the temp.dll hiding in AppData/Local. Also if you noticed LoadInit_DLLs is now the value "1".

The screenshot displays the IDA Pro interface with the 'Registry Editor' window open. The registry path is `Computer\HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Windows`. The 'AppInit_DLLs' value is set to `C:\Users\User\AppData\Local\temp.dll`, and 'LoadAppInit_DLLs' is set to `1`. The 'Output window' at the bottom shows the loaded DLLs: `C:\Windows\System32\imm32.dll` and `C:\Windows\System32\ntmarta.dll`.

Name	Type	Data
(Default)	REG_SZ	mnmsrvc
AppInit_DLLs	REG_SZ	C:\Users\User\AppData\Local\temp.dll
DdeSendTimeout	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
DesktopHeapLo...	REG_DWORD	0x00000001 (1)
DeviceNotSelect...	REG_SZ	15
DwmInputUsesl...	REG_DWORD	0x00000001 (1)
EnableDwmInpu...	REG_DWORD	0x00000007 (7)
GDIProcessHan...	REG_DWORD	0x00002710 (10000)
IconServiceLib	REG_SZ	IconCodecService.dll
LoadAppInit_DLLs	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
NaturalInputHa...	REG_SZ	Ninput.dll
ShutdownWarni...	REG_DWORD	0xffffffff (4294967295)
Spooler	REG_SZ	yes
ThreadUnrespo...	REG_DWORD	0x000001f4 (500)
TransmissionRet...	REG_SZ	90
USERNestedWin...	REG_DWORD	0x00000032 (50)
USERPostMessa...	REG_DWORD	0x00002710 (10000)
USERProcessHa...	REG_DWORD	0x00002710 (10000)
Win32kLastWrit...	REG_SZ	1D4EFA97DFB3A21

Output window:

```
7FFB4D530000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\imm32.dll
PDBSRC: loading symbols for 'C:\Users\User\source\repos\MalwareAnalysisTraining\x64\Release\Example 2 - DLLInjection.exe'...
7FFB499C0000: loaded C:\Windows\System32\ntmarta.dll
```

Current analysis

- So we have the general idea of what's happening with the main binary.
- It's copying/renaming the inject.dll to temp.dll, moving temp.dll to AppData/Local.
- Then modifying the AppInit_DLLs registry to point to that “.dll”.

Further analysis

- Now using the normal analysis routine of static analysis and dynamic analysis. Perform an analysis of the hidden “temp.dll” in the AppData/Local directory and see what you find.
- What does the temp.dll do?
- Is it also malicious?

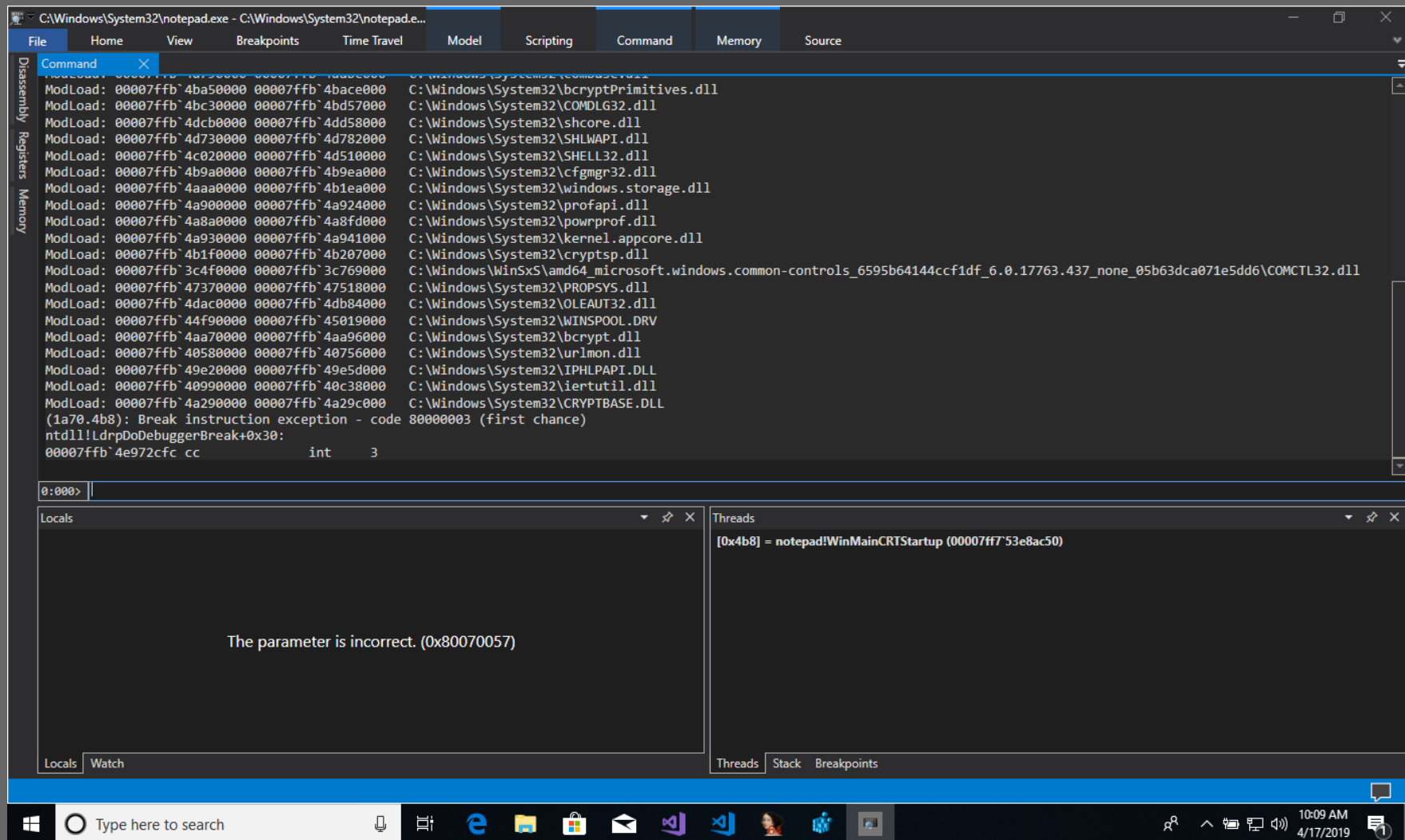
Further analysis cont.

- The answer is yes. It is malicious.
- Why?
- Was it a bit trickier to figure out what this “.dll” is meant to do?

Further analysis cont.

- The way I proved its maliciousness was using Windbg to prove my answer.
- What I did was open notepad, which uses user32.dll, in windbg and watched what happens.

Let's open windbg and launch notepad.exe within windbg. Then hit "GO" and watch happens.



So what does this mean?

It depends on the context. Most malware doesn't want anti-virus popping up. Anti-virus uses user32 to render messages on your screen. So this .dll in particular prevents such an event by crashing anything that loads user32.dll

CA\Windows\System32\notepad.exe - CA\Windows\System32\notepad.e...

File Home View Breakpoints Time Travel Model Scripting Command Memory Source

Disassembly Registers Memory

Command

ModLoad: 00007ff7`4a8a0000 00007ff7`4a8fd000 C:\Windows\System32\powrprof.dll
ModLoad: 00007ff7`4a930000 00007ff7`4a941000 C:\Windows\System32\kernel.appcore.dll
ModLoad: 00007ff7`4b1f0000 00007ff7`4b207000 C:\Windows\System32\cryptsp.dll
ModLoad: 00007ff7`3c4f0000 00007ff7`3c769000 C:\Windows\WinSxS\amd64_microsoft.windows.common-controls_6595b64144ccf1df_6.0.17763.437_none_05b63dca071e5dd6\COMCTL32.dll
ModLoad: 00007ff7`47370000 00007ff7`47518000 C:\Windows\System32\PROPSYS.dll
ModLoad: 00007ff7`4dac0000 00007ff7`4db84000 C:\Windows\System32\OLEAUT32.dll
ModLoad: 00007ff7`44f90000 00007ff7`45019000 C:\Windows\System32\WINSPOOL.DRV
ModLoad: 00007ff7`4aa70000 00007ff7`4aa96000 C:\Windows\System32\bcrypt.dll
ModLoad: 00007ff7`40580000 00007ff7`40756000 C:\Windows\System32\urlmon.dll
ModLoad: 00007ff7`49e20000 00007ff7`49e5d000 C:\Windows\System32\IPHLPAPI.DLL
ModLoad: 00007ff7`40990000 00007ff7`40c38000 C:\Windows\System32\iertutil.dll
ModLoad: 00007ff7`4a290000 00007ff7`4a29c000 C:\Windows\System32\CRYPTBASE.DLL
(167c.1c9c): Break instruction exception - code 80000003 (first chance)
ntdll!LdrpDoDebuggerBreak+0x30:
00007ff7`4e972cfc cc int 3
0:000> g
ModLoad: 00007ff7`4d530000 00007ff7`4d55e000 C:\Windows\System32\IMM32.DLL
ModLoad: 00007ff7`3f160000 00007ff7`3f169000 C:\Users\User\AppData\Local\temp.dll
ModLoad: 00007ff7`25d80000 00007ff7`25e1b000 C:\Windows\System32\MSVCP140.dll
ModLoad: 00007ff7`3ec40000 00007ff7`3ec55000 C:\Windows\System32\VCRUNTIME140.dll
(167c.1c9c): Security check failure or stack buffer overrun - code c0000409 (!!! second chance !!!)
ucrtbase!invoke_watson+0x18:
00007ff7`4a9dd428 cd29 int 29h

0:000> |

Locals

The parameter is incorrect. (0x80070057)

Threads

[0x1c9c] = notepad!WinMainCRTStartup (00007ff753e8ac50)

Locals Watch Threads Stack Breakpoints

Type here to search

10:11 AM 4/17/2019

Closing the Analysis

- So we've developed a pretty reasonable timeline at this point.
- The registry key of AppInit_DLLs is being used by the malware to load a “temp.dll” that prevents anything loading user32.dll from running.
- This is a pretty simple summary, but details the analysis perfectly.
- We can consider our analysis finished here.